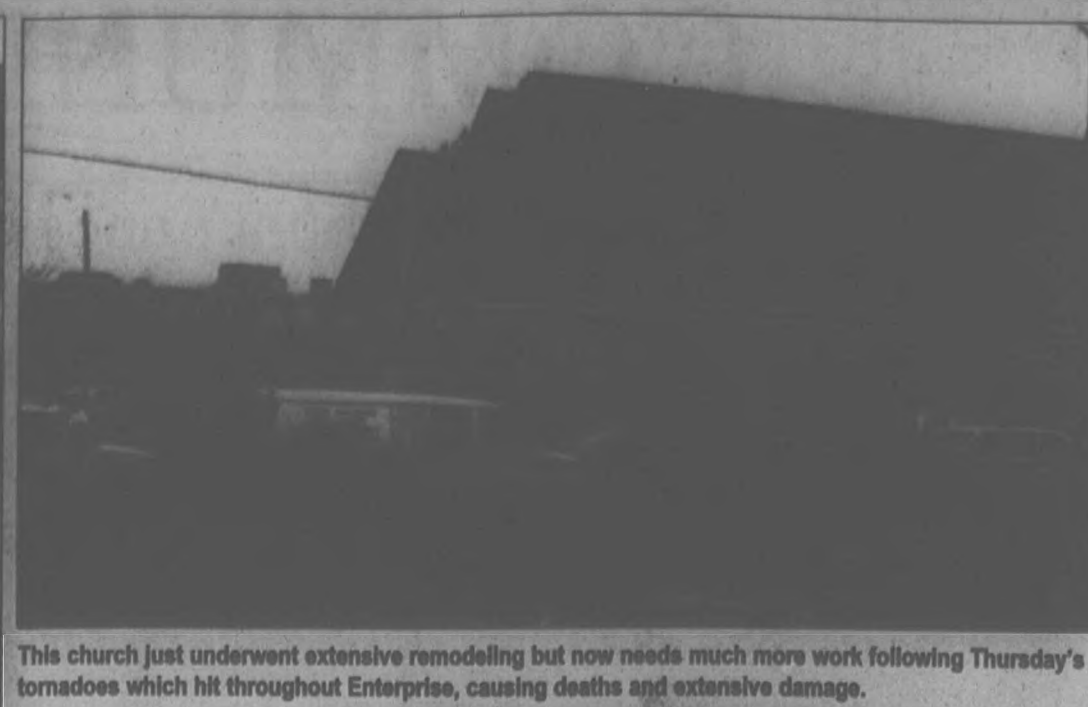


## A few pictures from devastated Enterprise following Thursday's tornadoes



President George Bush stands at the high school with students and officials while addressing press.



This church just underwent extensive remodeling but now needs much more work following Thursday's tornadoes which hit throughout Enterprise, causing deaths and extensive damage.



A five fold dose of pine trees on a roof near the high school



Just one of the high school classrooms destroyed. The car in the foreground is without windows, as were most others in the school area.



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Reverend Ron Stallard grabbed his chain saw and put his strong muscles to work clearing fallen trees from damaged homes in Enterprise.



Governor Bob Riley spent time inside the damaged high school

### DORSEY

From Page 1

get an worked to draft an agreeable "asset purchase agreement", the judge issued a short order agreeing to the sale but not including any of the language worked out by the buyer, seller and lien holders. That is apparently unacceptable to some parties to the settlement.

Butts said Thursday that he is hoping the Trustee would be

### STORM

From Page 1

damage to businesses, homes and utilities in several widespread areas of Enterprise.

As of late Tuesday, Coffee County was on a list of state and national disaster areas, eligible for financial help in recovering from the damage.

Volunteers are flocking in from neighboring communities and across the nation to assist in the clean up and recovery efforts.

Governor Bob Riley visited on Friday morning and returned Saturday with President George Bush.

U.S. Representative Terry Everett and his wife Barbara were with the governor on Friday. They returned Saturday with the president.

Also with the president Saturday was U. S. Senator Richard Shelby.

Attorney General Troy King visited the damaged areas and

asking the judge for another hearing to work out the problems.

In response to questions, he said that Mr. Pitts has the right to walk away from the deal if his terms are not accepted.

Butts added that "previous owner product liability" immunity is in virtually every bankrupt court contract and they expected it to be in this one.

He could give no estimate of how long this latest delay will take to work out.

cautioned citizens to beware of con artists and to report any efforts to rip off storm victims.

As of press time Tuesday there had been no announcement as to when Enterprise schools will be reopened, nor where displaced students will attend classes.

Following the tornadoes hitting, emergency personnel, medical teams, police and fire fighters, from surrounding communities and Ft. Rucker converged on Enterprise to help wherever needed, not waiting to be called.

Ambulances and Ft. Rucker helicopters transported injured to surrounding hospitals, after the damaged Enterprise Hospital and doctors reached its limit of patient care ability.

At one time at least four ambulances were backed up to Elba General Hospital emergency room unloading patients.

A nighttime curfew remains in place in the worse damaged areas of Enterprise.

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quilt to raise  
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cemetery

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holds "Business  
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# The Elba Clipper

Volume 110, Number 40

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 15, 2007

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 2 Adv. Inserts

## Utility officials defend rate increases in Elba

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

Recent increases in electric rates by the Elba Water and Electric Board have caused problems with many household budgets and thus corresponding complaints to city hall.

Utility officials defend the increases as just passing on increases in wholesale power cost and other operating expenses. Their position is that it should have been done a year ago.

A quick comparison review of audited financials for the past four years show power costs to the utility have definitely increased.

In 2003 the Elba utility spent \$2,318,265 for purchased wholesale power. This number increased some in 2004 to \$2,326,719. Then in 2005 the annual cost rose to \$2,690,437 and in 2006 it jumped up over a half million dollars and zoomed passed the three million dollar mark to \$3,226,820.

While these numbers are not adjusted for possible increases in total power purchased, there has been no major increase in industrial, commercial nor residential growth during that time period. There has in fact been some drop in activity in all three categories.

The budget comparison numbers can get confusing in a news article, however, it does show increases in several categories. Gas, oil and tires almost doubled in costs during that four year period; tools and supplies increased and telephone charges nearly doubled also.

Travel expense dropped several thousand dollars, as did truck expense. Salaries and payroll taxes actually dropped also several hundred dollars while

**Elba mayor commends department heads for keeping expenses down**

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City council met Monday evening and there were no surprises.

Monthly bills totaling \$73,362.29 were approved for payment. Mayor James Grimes commended department heads for cooperating and keeping expenses down.

Grimes also reviewed the financial statement and noted that total income was higher than budget projections. He noted however that much of that was transfers from the Water and Electric Board.

**New Brockton Town Council votes to raise garbage fees**

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The New Brockton Town Council voted Monday, March 5, during the regular monthly meeting to increase garbage fees.

Mayor Charles Cole said the increase was something most everyone had been expecting due to the new solid waste collection contract recently approved with Arrow Disposal Services. The increase for garbage service will be \$2 per month.

Cole said residential customers will pay \$16 per month. This includes \$13 for garbage pickup and \$3 for trash pickup. Commercial customers will pay \$22 per month. This includes \$19 for garbage pickup and \$3 for trash pickup.

Mayor Cole said customers can expect the increase beginning with the March 15th

maintenance cost dropped by \$60,000. However, these were more than offset by the meter upgrade program which was \$362,937 in 2005 and additional costs are occurring each year as the program itself expands. This should be a labor cost saver in the long run, but initially it is very expensive.

Another point made by Elba utility officials is that Elba rates have historically been lower than those of other utilities. They cite the Elba rate of \$98 for 1000 KWH, both winter and summer.

A list of 20 utilities, including Alabama Power, Gulf Power and 18 co-ops, Elba rates were lower both winter and summer combined than any other utility. These numbers were accurate as of February 15 of this year.

Alabama Power had lower winter rates, but higher summer rates. The same was true for one unidentified co-op. The other co-ops rates ranged from \$104.60 per 1000 KWH to \$138.70 per 1000 KWH, year round. These numbers did not include any applicable taxes, but did include the various fuel adjustment add ons for the month of February.

Then addressing the recent rate increase, an actual bill to an Elba resident was computed at the previous utility rate and the new rates. The results were as follows:

The residence used 2385 KWH during the month and was charged \$260.53 under the new rate. The old rate would have been \$215.20. However the Fuel Adjustment dropped from \$23.86 to \$11.93. That netted out to an increase of \$33.40 for electricity.

Garbage rates were also increased, as was sewer fees.

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The garbage fee for homeowners went from \$12 to \$14 while sewer rates on this examined household went from \$16.97 to \$20.88.

The totals of these, water (which didn't increase) and the \$5 school donation on this particular bill totaled \$348.40 compared to the old rate of \$307.75. These totals do include the Alabama 4% utility tax.

The total additional charge on this selected bill was \$40.65. The brick home is centrally heated and cooled and is somewhat larger than the average home in Elba. There is one stay-at-home family member in the house during most days.

The review of financial records and individual billings showed that expenses increased faster than income, day to day expenses for the utility increased 150% as fast as income to the system during the four years reviewed.

## Coffee County Commission approves medical leave for county administrator

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission began the regular bimonthly meeting Monday morning, March 12, by voting to approve a leave of absence for county administrator Wilson Mobley.

Mobley, who was not at Monday's meeting, submitted a letter requesting leave due to health related issues. Seemingly, this was on the recommendation of his doctor.

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the medical leave. No time frame was indicated.

Commissioners opened bids for maintenance/repair of cell doors at the Coffee County Jail. Only one bid was submitted for consideration.

Cornerstone Detention Products submitted a bid in the amount of \$9,450 for labor, cleaning, testing and recalibrating the cell doors. It was noted that any parts that have to be replaced will cost separately.

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve this bid.

During his report to commissioners, Sheriff Dave Sutton said the infrastructure problems at the county jail need to be fixed, and the Coffee County Commission helped the county move one step closer Monday by correcting these problems by awarding the bid for the repair to cell doors.

During a recent disturbance at

**Please See CITY, Page 14**

read each month.

Mayor Cole offered the monthly report from the water board, and he noted that meter reading was estimated over a while with only two people. He said these two people had to handle all departmental duties including repairing any and all leaks.

Cole said some bills may seem high because of this factor. He added that the new water superintendent said from now on hopefully all meters will be

**Please See TOWN, Page 14**

the jail which the sheriff said remains under investigation, he said part of the problem was not being able to secure cell doors.

Also during his report, Sheriff Sutton again emphasized a need to increase manpower within the sheriff's department.

"We are short on manpower," he said.

Sutton said the department needs five additional people. He said Coffee County currently has 11 road deputies which is up to 10 deputies less than other counties with the same land mass to cover.

Sutton said the recent catastrophic event in Enterprise renewed the county's need for extra manpower and equipment. Therefore, he requested a work session with commissioners to again discuss the need for additional manpower.

The sheriff said he was requesting working together with the commission to find a way to get the additional five people for the sheriff's department.

He presented commissioners with a proposal which he said would cost the county approximately \$276,442. This included the hiring of one sergeant and four deputies, as well as the purchase of three additional patrol units, duty gear, bullet proof vests, duty weapons, shotguns, tasers, uniforms and communication gear/equipment.

Chief deputy R.W. Whitworth also provided commissioners with a monthly report from the sheriff's department. He said the sheriff's department wants the



THE EXPECTED TEARING DOWN of the downtown Elba building owned and formerly occupied by a portion of Clements Furniture began this week. As of Tuesday afternoon, some of the building's windows already had been removed. Structural problems with the building were identified in December '06. Court Street in downtown Elba has been blocked to traffic since the building troubles were discovered. After the building has been torn down, the street most likely will be reopened.

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During Monday's Coffee County Commission meeting, Chairman Jim Thompson reminded solid waste customers of a deadline to place decals on their trash cans. Thompson said green decals recently were sent to residential customers (such as the one shown above) to be placed on their trash cans. He said customers must have the decals placed on their can by Monday, April 2. Otherwise, he said the service provider, Arrow Disposal Services, will not pick up garbage and will confiscate the cans with no decal displayed.

commission to know what's going on with the department.

In February, Whitworth said the department received 797 civil papers and served 967 papers (some left over from the previous month). Also, he said

**Please See CCC, Page 14**



Firefighter Jeremy Sanders

Jeremy is the owner/operator of Sanders Earth Construction, hunting, working, operating equipment and spending time with Ashley and his family.

His hobbies/interests include hunting, working, operating equipment and spending time with Ashley and his family.



## EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS  
With Ferrin Cox

On Tuesday U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions introduced legislation that would make it a crime to fraudulently obtain emergency disaster funds. We can only applaud such action but in the back of our mind is a huge question mark. Why in the world is it necessary to pass legislation in 2007 making fraud a crime? Mamma told us as we were little children that it was wrong to eat that sugar cookie in the grocery store without first paying for it, i.e. it was fraud and subject to penalty... and even now we would rather have punishment by U. S. or local courts than have mama hold court as judge, jury and administrator of the punishment! Reading the fine print on this, and most legislative bills, is confusing to us, but hopefully it is an effort to make it a worse crime to commit fraud following a major disaster than during regular times. Now that would be good news as we join Sessions and his co-sponsors in disgust at such low life actions.

Work has started on taking down the crumbling retail building on the courthouse square. Clements Furniture stopped using that part of their facility in December after cracks appeared in the facade and slipped supports could be seen protruding from the cracks. Engineers later determined the facility had to come down and that is to happen... new. No announcements have been made on plans to replace the building, located on the West side of the square.

Finally Anna Nicole Smith and music icon James Brown are buried. However in Brown's case he is in a crypt at a daughter's home and plans are to move his body later when an appropriate place has been constructed. Actually we heard, what was admittedly a rumor, that the same would ultimately happen with Smith's body. As an avid believer in the soul leaving this earth and going to heaven or somewhere learned folks still argue over the somewhere - concern over the placement of a body is not a rabid issue on this hill. But then neither are we now, nor do we expect to in the future, be jockeying for position to manage a huge financial estate left behind by a dead person. We just want to pay our monthly bills and have a bit left over to buy some groceries. We often wonder how God is reacting to some of the antics often seen following the death of a well known and/or rich person.

A number of kind hearted groups in Coffee County, and all around Alabama, are again raising funds for the annual Relay For Life. This project generates tons of money to fight the dreaded "c" word... cancer. If you are asked to contribute money, buy a ticket, food, etc. please do so. These small contributions by thousands of interested citizens can pile up and be an important help to the fight against the whole family of diseases called cancer.

The debate over should they or shouldn't they have had school in Enterprise the day of the terrible tornado, or should they have let students out early continues, but at a reduced rate. Some of that muting is due to well known national experts backing the actions of school officials... 100%. Our little ole mind-sums up the discussions as "Monday morning quarterbacking".

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## Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Mar. 5, 2007, investigated the following incidents: one lost phone, one domestic violence, one found property, one attempted theft by deception, one verbal incident, two for harassment, one resisting arrest, two for theft of property, one forger, one assault and one harassing communications.

The following arrests were made: two for domestic violence, two for failure to appear, one for harassment, one for resisting arrest, one for probation violation and one for failure to pay.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for violation of the noise ordinance, six for not wearing a seat belt, one for failure to display insurance, one for improper lights, one for speeding, one for an improper turn and one for a driver's license restriction violation.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:  
**MONDAY, MAR. 5** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 617 Mullins (1:39 p.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported at Regency Apts. (11:29 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at Regency Apts. on Hickman Ave. (11:47 p.m.).

**TUESDAY, MAR. 6** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 342 Court Ave. (9:43 a.m.).

**WEDNESDAY, MAR. 7** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to Elba High School (8:49 a.m.); Possible domestic disturbance reported at 1131 Guyton St. (8:56 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, MAR. 8** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1848 County Rd. 119 (6:43

a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck on Hwy. 125 north of Hwy. 167 (1:03 p.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to a brush fire on Herman Driggers Dr. (3:27 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 4519 County Rd. 215 (3:27 p.m.).

**FRIDAY, MAR. 9** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1675 County Rd. 217 (3:37 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1217 Jones Circle (11:43 p.m.).

**SATURDAY, MAR. 10** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 934 Sunset Blvd. (5:12 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Skelly Field (helicopter crash) on County Rd. 427 (9:02 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to Skelly Field as mutual aid for Ino Fire Department (9:08 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1172 County Rd. 201 (10:19 p.m.).

**SUNDAY, MAR. 11** - Disturbance (noise) reported at 1320 Jones St. (1:19 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 29508 Hwy. 87 (4:56 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to a woods fire southwest of Danley's Crossroads (5:30 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 747 Adams (11:46 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to grease fire at 22127 Hwy. 87 N. (2:19 p.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported at Powell Circle (8:08 p.m.); Fight in progress reported at Mulberry Park near the basketball court (8:19 p.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported at 1557 Powell Circle (9:09 p.m.).

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USPS 171-080

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• **ALCOHOL & DRUG RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP** - every Tuesday at 6 p.m. - Still Baptist Church of Elba - Call 897-5037 for more information

• **SOCIAL SECURITY REP.** - Court House 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call FREE 1-800-772-1213

• **ROTARY CLUB** - Tuesday @ Noon-First First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

• **ELBA CITY COUNCIL** - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m.-City Hall

• **WATER & ELECTRIC** - Tuesday following 2nd Monday-6 p.m. - City Hall

• **ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN.** - Tues., 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

• **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** - every Monday 6:30 p.m.-Elba United Methodist Church-enter on side on W. Davis St.-Maggie Garrett Classroom

• **COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION** - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center

• **LIONS CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizens Center

• **ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD** - 2nd Tues. - 5:30 p.m. - Supt. Office

• **AMERICAN LEGION** - 1st Tuesday of every month-7:00 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.

• **MASONIC LODGE** - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month- 7 p.m. - 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School

• **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER** - Mon-Fri. 8-12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 New Breckton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5858

• **COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN.** - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. Club House

• **REPUBLICAN WOMEN** - 3rd Wed. Noon - Po Folks, Enterprise

• **ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY** - 1st Thursday at 5 PM, the FBO office at the Airport

• **AARP** meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month

• **ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Monday - 7 p.m. - Elba High boys locker room

• **NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB** - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

• **ELBA KIWANIS CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Thursday - Noon - Elba Public Library

This space is available for classified ads. Call 897-2823 for more information.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

This week, I was misquoted in another paper. At least one remark was out of context.

I was quoted as saying there was no warning at school for the tornado of March 01.

This was a phone interview and quite easy to be misunderstood. But I did state that the students were kept at school because of a warning. Later, I spoke of how quickly the events unfolded.

I write here because I want people who may read or hear secondhand about this article to know that.

My remarks did not insinuate a lack of an EMA warning or any problem with what our school leadership did. Dr. John Granger, Coffee County Baptist Association

Dear Editor:

Elba High School's Class of 1977 is eagerly awaiting Homecoming 2007 when we will celebrate our 30 year class reunion. We ask your help and the help of the readers of The Elba Clipper in connecting with all of our former classmates.

We hope that classmates who have not yet been contacted or friends and family of those from the class of 1977 will contact us at elbaclipper77@yahoo.com or telephone Gregg Farris at 897-5683 or Jenny Hudson Stephens at 334-794-2237 and provide the accurate contact information.

If you feel that the State of Alabama ought to join the other 46 states in dropping sales tax on these two items, you might consider writing to your elected Montgomery representative. If you need legislative contact information, go to <http://www.legislature.state.al.us> / and click on "Senate" and/or "House" to find your representatives.

Sincerely yours,  
Ivey Jackson  
iveyjac@msn.com  
Birmingham, Alabama

Thanking you in advance,  
Shella Hornsby and Jenny Stephens

Dear Editor,  
Alabama is one of only four states that still charges a sales tax on Hearing Aids and Prostheses (artificial limbs).

I could not have continued as an insurance agent if it were not for hearing aids. I need to be accurate when clients provide numbers or be able to understand female underwriters. For those reasons, I feel that my two aids are "Medical Devices" rather than a luxury. Also, my wife appreciates not having to yell at me, and it is a pleasure to understand my grandchildren.

The same goes for the poor person that has an artificial limb. If he has no insurance, he also has to pay the 4% state sales tax plus any local tax of 2% to 4%. It is just not right!

If you feel that the State of Alabama ought to join the other 46 states in dropping sales tax on these two items, you might consider writing to your elected Montgomery representative. If you need legislative contact information, go to <http://www.legislature.state.al.us> / and click on "Senate" and/or "House" to find your representatives.

Sincerely yours,  
Ivey Jackson  
iveyjac@msn.com  
Birmingham, Alabama

## Card of Thanks

Words cannot express our gratitude for the prayers, food, flowers, & cards provided by our many relatives, friends and neighbors during the illness and loss of our beloved wife & mother.

The Berry Family

## FRED E. CALHOUN

Mr. Fred E. Calhoun, age 79, of Elba, Ala., died Sunday, March 11, 2007 at the Elba General Hospital.

Funeral services were held March 12, 2007 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Reverend Bobby Holladay, Reverend Ken Harrison and Reverend Melvin Smith officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife: Edith Rebecca Calhoun; two sons: Terry (wife Margaret) Calhoun, Kenneth (wife Katrina) Calhoun, and one daughter: Nita (husband Donnie) Stinson, all of Elba; three granddaughters: Amanda Martin, Wetumpka, Ala., Katelyn Calhoun, Elba, Kendall Stinson, Enterprise, Ala.; three grandsons: Trent Calhoun, Auburn, Ala., Wesley Calhoun and Donnie Stinson Jr., both of Elba; two brothers: Charles Calhoun, Montgomery, Ala.,

Harold Calhoun, Ozark, Ala.; two sisters: Sarah Donaldson, Elba, and Betty Carolyn Crook, Troy, Ala.

## RONALD ALFRED MARTIN

Mr. Ronald Alfred Martin, age 64, of the Holley Store Community, died Saturday, March 10, 2007, at the Southeast Alabama Medical Center in Dothan, Ala.

Mr. Martin was born in Norwalk, Connecticut, the son of Gerard Allen Martin and Arlene Martin.

Funeral services were held March 14, 2007 at Covenant Community Church of Elba with Reverend Mart Gray officiating. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba was in charge of arrangements.

He was preceded in death by his parents along with one sister, Janice Brock.

Survivors include his wife: Brenda Kaye (Blair) Martin, Kinston, Ala.; two daughters: Cecelia Kaye Martin, Kinston, Ala.; two sons: Charles Calhoun, Montgomery, Ala.,

## CEC plans Charity Poker Run to benefit Enterprise

Covington Electric Cooperative (CEC), a member-owned electric cooperative, will sponsor a Charity Poker Run Saturday, March 24, with registration beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the CEC Charity Poker Run on Highway 134 West in Enterprise.

The event will raise money to help the tornado victims in Enterprise.

The first bike out will leave at 10 a.m. and the last bike out will leave at 11 a.m. Anyone who would like more information on the CEC Charity Poker Run should contact Doyle Colvin at 334-504-0775.

CEC plans Charity Poker Run to benefit Enterprise

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# LIFESTYLES

## Sweatt-Bass wedding planned for Friday, March 16 in Andalusia

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Jowers of Opp are pleased to announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter Natasha Marie Sweatt to Robert Julius Bass II, son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Spikes. Natasha is the daughter of Larry and Jane Jowers of Opp and the late Tommie Sweatt of Red Level. She is the granddaughter of Faye and the late Junior Jowers and Earnest and Fannie Kelley, all of Andalusia. She is also the granddaughter of the late Lee and Kate Sweatt of Red Level.

## Noon POWER LUNCH set for March 20th at First Baptist Church in Enterprise

Noon Hour POWER LUNCH at Enterprise First Baptist Church to feature Stormie Omatian's video lesson on "The Power of a Praying Woman." All ladies in the community are invited to attend and bring a friend to the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall at 302 North Main Street, Enterprise for this hour of fellowship from 12pm to 1pm on Tuesday, March 20th. Call the church office at 393-LOVE before March 19 for lunch reservations.

## Boutwell brothers awarded UWA scholarships to UWA

Two Coffee County students were recently awarded Trustee Scholarships to attend The University of West Alabama in Livingston. These awards, which are based on academic achievement and proven leadership potential, come from the UWA Office of Admissions. Nicholas Brandon Boutwell and Christopher Wade Boutwell, both of Elba, receive \$10,000 academic scholarships. Seniors at Elba High School, they plan to major in computer science.

## "Miss Circle City of the Wiregrass" Spring Pageant set for April 29

The "Miss Circle City of the Wiregrass" Spring Pageant will be held Sunday, April 29, 2007 at the Doug Tew Community Center, Dothan, Ala. The pageant will begin at 1:30 p.m. The pageant is open to all girls in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. All ages are invited. The deadline to enter is Saturday, April 14, 2007.

## The Southeast Alabama Beekeepers Association

The Southeast Alabama Beekeepers Association will hold its monthly meeting on the 5th of April 2007 at 7 p.m. at the Coffee County Farm Center. Anyone interested in the honeybee is welcome to attend. For more information call Elizabeth Whitaker at 334-894-2077.

## Clark Theatres • Enterprise

WEB SITE: [www.clarktheatres.com](http://www.clarktheatres.com)  
MOVIE INFO 24 7 347-2531  
ACTIVE MILITARY DISCOUNT TICKETS  
M-F 7:10 & 9:15 S&S 2:10, 7:10 & 9:15  
(\*) INDICATES NO PASSES NO WED DISCOUNT

## Enterprise Shopping Center

1-P WILD ROSES (PG-13)  
M-F 7:10 & 9:15 S&S 2:10, 7:10 & 9:15  
2-PRESENTATION (PG-13)  
M-F 7 & 9 S&S 2, 7 & 9  
Westgate Center  
3-CHERRY RIDGE (PG-13)  
M-F 7 ONLY S&S 2 & 7 ONLY  
4-3D:AC (R)  
M-F 7:10 & 9:15 S&S 2:10 & 7:10  
IV-BEYOND THE TERAHTH (PG)  
M-F 7 & 9 S&S 2, 7 & 9  
College Cinema

## 1-300

M-F 7 & 9:15 S&S 2, 7 & 9:15  
2-HEAD SHOTS (R)  
M-F 7:10 & 9:15 S&S 2:10 & 7:10  
3-11:11 I THINK I LOVE MY WIFE (R)  
M-F 7:10 & 9:15 S&S 2:10 & 7:10

## MARSH INSURANCE AGENCY

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Got something to sell? Try an Elba Clipper Classified. You'll be glad you did!



Mr. Scarbrough & Miss Nelson

## Miss Nelson and Mr. Scarbrough to be united in marriage

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Nelson of Ohio will announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Miss Adrienne (Rudy) Nelson to Mr. James Brett Scarbrough of Glenwood, Alabama, son of Mr. and Mrs. Derral Guldage of Glenwood and the late James Scarbrough.

The bride elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hayward Nelson of Elba and Mr. and Mrs. Martin Mobley of Jack. Miss Nelson is currently employed with a medical facility in Enterprise.

The prospective groom is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Gadston Levere of Glenwood and is currently employed with a construction company in Enterprise, Alabama.

The couple will be united in marriage on March 31, 2007, at 4 p.m., at Jack Assembly of God. No local invitations will be sent but all family and friends are invited to attend.

J.D. Robb-Betrayal in Death, Conspiracy in Death, Imitation in Death, Innocent in Death, Loyalty in Death, Portrait in Death, Purity in Death, Reunion in Death, Seduction in Death, Survivor in Death, Winter in Death.

Nora Roberts-Angels Falls, Rules of Play, Danielle Steel-Sisters, Stephen White-The Best Revenge, Blinded, Private Practices, The Program

## CHRISTIAN FICTION

Terri Blackstock - Night Light, Denise Hunter - Never a Bride, Stranger's Bride, Karen Kingsbury - Even Now, Beverly Lewis-The Brethren, The Preacher's Daughter, DiAnn Mills- Country Charm, Debra W. Smith- First Impressions

EOCC Entertainers to present Spring Show March 16th

The Enterprise-Ozark Community College Entertainers will present their Spring Show on Friday, March 16, in Lurleen B. Wallace Student Center's Multipurpose Room at 7:00 p.m. Tickets proceeds will go to the Enterprise High School Choral Music Program.

The Entertainers plan a fast-paced choreographed program which includes Broadway, gospel, pop, rock and roll, country, and more. Selections include One World, Jesus What A Wonderful Child, Hernando's Hideaway, and a 1970s medley with a Twist.

Entertainers Director Dr. Richard Snyder will be presenting his last concert with the group. He will be retiring at the end of the summer semester after 40 years of teaching.

## NOTICE

If you live in the affected area of the March 1st tornado and have damage or loss and are serving on active duty in the reserves, National Guard or are a veteran there are outright cash grants available. For further details contact Paul Kasper at 334-389-5434.

Kasper is the commander of the Enterprise Post 6683. Applicants do not have to be a member to qualify.

Bradley's Florist & Gift Bridal Registry  
DeAnn Smith & Neal Grantham  
Stephanie Miller & Jason Barrow  
Katie Vaughan & Stephen Harbin  
Shay Johnson & Robert Camley

Offering:  
• Crystal chandelier  
• Chino • Flowers  
897-3422

## Elba Public Library has new books available for reading FICTION

Victoria Alexander- What a Lady Wants  
M.C. Beaton-Death of a Maid  
Barbara Bradford-The Ravenscar Dynasty  
Rita Mae Brown-Puss 'n' cabsots

Jennifer Cruise-Manhunting  
Barbara Delinsky-Family Tree  
Christina Dodd-The Prince Kidnaps a Bride  
Janet Evanovich-Back to the Bedroom, Plum Lovin', Smitten

Lisa Gardner-Hide  
Julie Garwood-Shadow Dance  
Andrew Greeley-Irish Linen  
Karen Harper-The Hooded Hawke

Tony Hillerman-The First Eagle  
Jilliane Hoffman-Last Witness  
Kay Hooper-The Delaney Christmas Carol

John James-Homeland  
Alex Kava-At the Stroke of Madness  
Jayne A. Krentz- Twist of Fate, White Lies

Fern Michaels-Lethal Justice  
Linda L. Miller- McKettrick's Choice  
Robert Parker-High Profile  
James Patterson-Step on a Crack

Jodi Picoult-Keeping Faith, My Sister's Keeper,  
Songs of the Humpback Whale  
Luanne Rice-The Edge of Winter

J.D. Robb-Betrayal in Death, Conspiracy in Death, Imitation in Death, Innocent in Death, Loyalty in Death, Portrait in Death, Purity in Death, Reunion in Death, Seduction in Death, Survivor in Death, Winter in Death.

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## Round & About With Eria 897-2006

SCRIPTURE: Mark 8:1-26

THINKING OF YOU, PRAYING FOR YOU: Ree Nita Brooks, Grace Luckett, The Brown Family, The Magwood Family, The McLeod Family, All of our servicemen, Evelyn Manning

MARCH BIRTHDAYS: Gladys Wright- March 9, Minnie Daniels- March 11, Jerry McMillan- March 12, Ashley Carpenter- March 13, Freddie Robinson- March 16

THE 35TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE MULBERRY BAPTIST DISTRICT Laymen's Convention, Elba, Ala., will be held at the Mulberry Missionary Baptist Educational Building, Hwy. 84, Elba on Friday, March 16, 2007 beginning at 6:30 a.m. and on Saturday, March 17, 2007 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Speakers at the Friday service will be Dea. James Williams, Dea. Wayne King, and Dea. Adrian Shine and the sermon will be given by Rev. W. L. Peterson with the alternate being Rev. Mose Rogers. Speakers on Saturday morning will be Dea. Lewis Carpenter, Dea. Thomas Brooks, and the sermon will be given by Rev. Roderick Rieux with the alternate being Rev. John Lawrence.

DALLAS LUCKETT, the 7 year old son of Jackie Luckett of Elba, will be the guest speaker at Shady Grove A. M. E. Church, Elba at the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, March 18, 2007.

For more information contact Estella Hooks- 334-897-8742 or Ernestine Kelley- 334-897-3611.

Today is a good day! Be grateful.

For more information contact Pastor Shirlee Ellis- (334) 735-5463 or (334) 735-2383.

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## The Old Southern Gospel

Singers to be at Shiloh

Baptist Church, March 17

Shiloh Baptist Church will hold their 3rd Saturday Night Singing on Saturday, March 17, 2007 beginning at 7 p.m. Featured singers will be The Old Southern Gospel Singers.

Elba Zion Christian Community Center to present benefit concert

The Elba Zion Christian Community Center will present a benefit concert featuring Mr. Henry Terry and Carver High School Choir and Mr. Lewis Webb and Troy University Gospel Singers. The concert will take place Saturday, April 21, 2007 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Elba High School Auditorium, 371 Tiger Drive, Elba.

THE ALABAMA BAPTIST DISASTER RELIEF FEEDING UNIT is feeding in Enterprise. Several Baptist associations are represented in the photo. Coffee County Baptist in the photo are: Dallas Farris - New Haven, Terry Davis - Goodman, Pearl Kent and Ann Spicer - Westside. Not pictured who served: Rev. & Mrs. Fred Fowler - Mt. Gilead, Lynda Berry - Westside.

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## PASTOR'S CORNER Rev. Ron Stallard Elba Church of God

### The creek is the road

My great Grandmother lived in West Virginia. She raised my Grandfather in the early 1900's. In W. Virginia. At that time the land was not settled very well. They lived on a 30 mile road called Mill Creek Road. It was 30 miles west of Huntington W. Virginia. The road itself was the creek. When the creek was up or washed out they could not travel the road with a mule or horse anyway. Logging was the industry there and they were hard working people. Many of the them were tied together by their culture. Granny Polly was a Bible reading Christian. She held services at her house and eventually a church was erected. It also served as the local school. The people were poor, and they raised their own food and used up every resource they had. My Grandfather use to say when they butchered a pig they used everything but the squeal.

The school had no money for books or supplies. Everyone had a family Bible and that was the only common book they had. All of the children learned to read from the Bible. This had a great cultural effect that lasted for generations. My parents moved out of that country because the work played out. They carried on the tradition of reading the bible to us. Granny Polly preached the gospel. She was one of the only ones on the creek who knew enough about the Bible to minister, so Granny Polly preached with a passion. Everyone on the Creek got religion. No one told Granny Polly that only men could be ministers. No one cared. Even until this day there is a Mill Creek Church of God.

I haven't been back there in many years but I know that because a community was determined to have a church and a school, many people's lives are better for it. Many have tried to make this community a better place and I believe we are better for it. Let us hang on to the price paid to keep the gospel alive. God will make a way when there seems to be no way.

## Church Directory

FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH  
Rev. Andy Markle, Pastor  
Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service.....5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service.....7:15 p.m.

FATMI CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH  
Phillip Nelson, Pastor  
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 p.m.

IN ASSEMBLY OF GOD - KINOSTON  
Danny Bradshaw, Pastor  
Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

KANON BAPTIST CHURCH  
Bernard Strickland, Pastor  
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service.....6:15 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Phillip Box, Minister  
Bible Study.....9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Evening.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD  
Ron Stallard, Pastor  
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY  
Rev. David Tuleck  
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Night.....5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Class.....6:30 p.m.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH  
Dr. Day Dyer, Pastor  
Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....10:00 a.m.  
Disciple Train.....5:30 p.m.  
Even. Worship.....9:00 a.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH  
Tom Senn, Pastor  
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.<







## SPORTS

Views From....

## THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

My oldest daughter Melissa celebrated her 24th birthday last week, and as is custom at the Mularz house, we all went out to dinner to help her celebrate. We spent a little more than I would have liked at a steakhouse in Dothan, but birthdays only come once a year, and as good as the food was, the highlight of the evening for Melissa came when we got up to leave without our waitress leading everyone around our table in a birthday song. Years ago both girls looked forward to the song and a free dessert, but as they have grown older that is now their biggest fear. Oh well, maybe one day someone will take me out and I'll let them sing all they want!

## FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

\*\*\* The Elba Tigers lost a home game to Brantley last week to fall to 4-2 on the season, but never quit after falling behind 7-0 in the top of the first and showed a lot of desire and determination in making it a game. I am sure Elba's Coach Mike Buckelew was a little disappointed in the showing of his top two pitchers in the loss. However, the defense played well enough to win, and at the plate the Tigers banged out 10 hits and saw 9 runners cross the plate. Everyone knew before the season began that if this year's team had a weakness it might be on the mound, and that lack of depth could wear on the Tiger starters as the season progresses. If there was a positive in the loss, it was the way the players never quit and battled until the final out.

\*\*\* The Elba Lady Tigers had the week off due to graduation exams and took advantage of the rest to get in extra hours of work both at the plate and in the field. The Lady Tigers will have to scratch and claw all season long to add wins to their side of the ledger, and maybe the week off will give them a little extra life as they prepare for some very tough opponents in the weeks to come.

\*\*\* Troy University released its 2007 football schedule last week and included on next year's 12-game slate are visits to SEC powers Arkansas, Florida and Georgia, as well as a home game with Big 12 foe Oklahoma State. The Trojans will battle Arkansas, Florida and Oklahoma State in a span of only 14 days, and when they play three straight weeks before getting a much needed week off. The matchup with Georgia in the ninth week could prove pivotal, since it closes the season with key conference games against Western Kentucky, Middle Tennessee and Florida Atlantic. The games against Oklahoma State and Middle Tennessee will both be televised on ESPN 2, with the Oklahoma State game set for Friday and the Middle Tennessee game set for Tuesday. It looks like another challenging season for the Trojans.

\*\*\* Alabama's late-season swoon in basketball has many Tide fans calling for the removal of Coach Mark Gottfried. The Crimson Tide was expected to be an SEC power this season and was ranked fourth in the nation early on, but never came close to reaching its potential and despite the season wasn't even a good college team. I've heard fans say that Gottfried was no better as a basketball coach than Mike Shula was as a football coach, and while that may be true, I think a post-season meeting might just serve the purpose and make the coach realize another season like this one could result in a loss of employment.

\*\*\* In closing... youth registration ended last week here in Elba for baseball and softball, and overall numbers were up for the spring and summer programs. The numbers in baseball were up over years past and should result in lots of excitement, while over in softball the numbers are about the same since fast-pitch was introduced a few years back. The seasons will start in early April. So, get ready to come out to the parks and cheer for the youngsters.

Make plans now to attend the...  
**FAMILY EASTER FESTIVAL**  
Saturday, March 31  
at the Elba Recreation Center  
Sponsored by the  
Elba Department of Parks and Recreation  
and Area Merchants



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## Record slips to 4-2

## Elba Tigers battered by Brantley 14-9

The Elba Tigers saw their record slip to 4-2 last Tuesday afternoon with a wild 14-9 loss to the Brantley Bulldogs, in Elba.

Brantley came to town ready to play and stunned the Tigers as the Bulldogs came out swinging the bats and combined 7 hits with a hit batter to plate seven runs in the top of the first inning. A lead-off double by Brooks sparked the early Bulldog rally, while Knighten knocked in 2 runs and McClain, Gullett, Heath, Helms and Brooks all added rbi's.

Elba battled back in its half of the inning and used two hits, two walks and a hit batter to score four runs as the Tigers pulled within 7-4. Bradley Wilson was hit by a pitch and Don Rhoades drew a walk to open the inning for the Tigers, while a fly-out and a fielder's choice left Elba with two outs and two runners on base. Chase Boutwell came through with an rbi single to get the Tigers on the scoreboard, and after a walk to Justin McLaughlin, Justin Mallory delivered a key two-run single as Elba got right back in the game.

Elba's Stephen Driggers knocked in Bradley Wilson with an rbi double in the second inning as the Tigers crept within 7-5, while the Tigers added two runs in the bottom of the third to catch the Bulldogs at 7-7.

A walk to Chase Boutwell ignited the Elba rally and a double by Justin McLaughlin put runners on second and third with no outs, and Boutwell scored on a fielder's choice off the bat of Dylan McCollough and McLaughlin scored on an rbi single by Michael Spurlin as the Tigers pulled even after three innings.

Brantley combined one hit

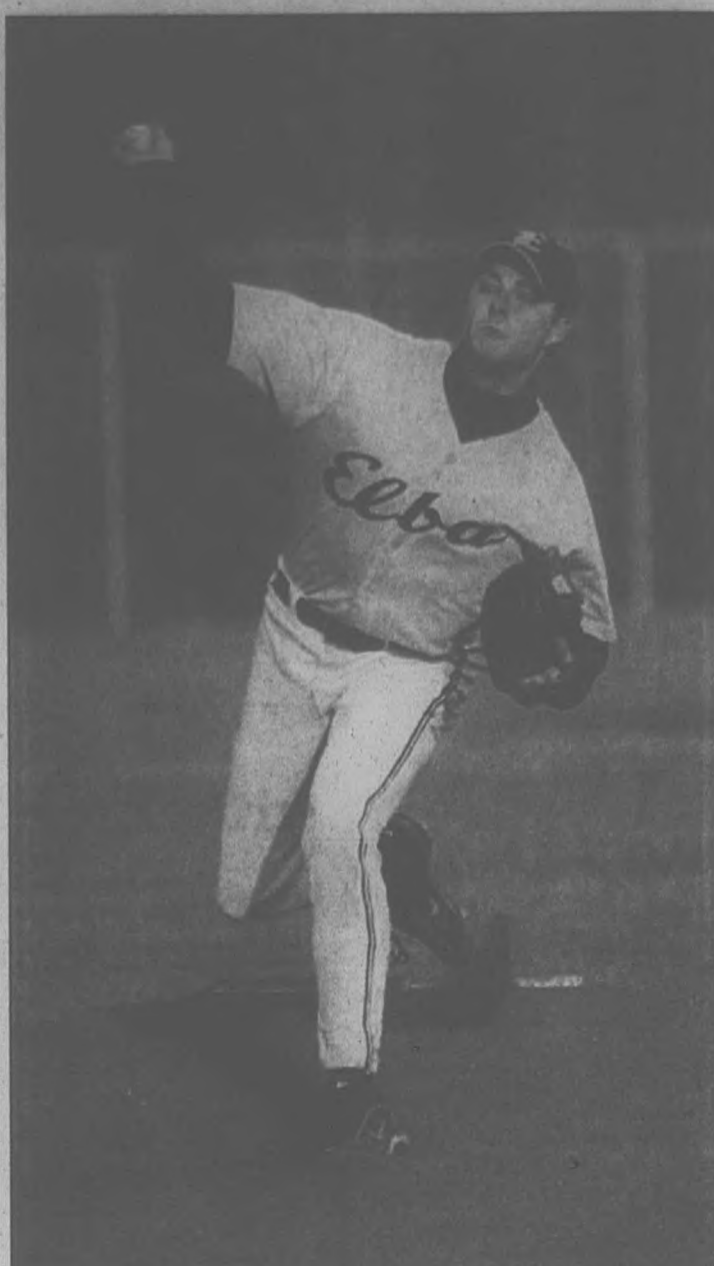
with one error in the fourth inning to regain the lead at 9-7, but Elba again rallied and scored once to get back within 9-8. A one-out single by Stephen Driggers sparked the Elba rally, while Chase Boutwell delivered a two-out double to cut into the Brantley lead.

Brantley continued its scoring parade in the top of the fifth as the Bulldogs plated three runs to extend their lead to 12-8. A two-out single by Knighten ignited the Brantley uprising, while Gullett knocked in both runs with a key two-out single.

The Bulldogs bunched two hits in the sixth as their lead grew to 13-8. However, the Tigers refused to go away and added a run to cut the Brantley lead to 13-9. A lead-off single by Stephen Driggers got the inning off and running, while Brad Sullivan followed with a base hit, and Driggers later scored on a fielder's choice off the bat of Chase Boutwell.

Brantley combined one hit with one walk and one error in the top of the seventh to stretch its lead to 14-9, and this time the Tigers didn't have an answer as the Bulldogs posted the wild 14-9 win.

Stephen Driggers had 3 hits, scored 2 runs and knocked in 1 run to lead Elba at the plate, while Chase Boutwell added 2 hits, scored 2 runs and collected 2 rbi's. Justin Mallory had 1 hit and 2 rbi's, while Justin McLaughlin, Dylan McCollough and Michael Spurlin all added 1 hit and 1 rbi, and Brad Sullivan had 1 hit. Gullett led the Bulldogs at the plate with 4 hits, 2 runs scored and 3 rbi's, while Knighten added 3 hits, 2 runs scored and 3 rbi's; McClain had 1 hit, 3 runs scored and 1 rbi; and Haws added 2 hits and 2 runs scored.



ELBA TIGER STEPHEN DRIGGERS delivers a pitch in high school baseball action last week against Brantley. Driggers suffered his first loss of the season as the Tigers were outscored 14-9.

(Photo by Mike Capps)

Stephen Driggers took the loss on the mound as he pitched four innings and allowed 9 runs (7 earned runs) on 9 hits, while striking out 2 batters. Don Rhoades pitched three innings in relief and allowed 5 runs (4 earned runs) on 6 hits, while striking out 5 batters.

Research over the last few years indicates that it is better to remove a hook rather than cut the line and leave the hook in a fish's mouth. Hooks do not dissolve as fast as was once thought, and can stay in the fish's mouth for several months. A fish hooked deep has a better chance of surviving if the hook is left in place. But don't try to cut the line right at the hook. Leave about a foot of line on the hook so enough force will be exerted on the hook to keep the hook shank from turning up and preventing the fish from swallowing.

On two different occasions I have been invited to a friends farm pond to check on how well the fish were growing. One trip was for bass and the other was for channel cat. On both occasions we snapped the barbs off before fishing. I do not believe using barbless hooks resulted in either of us losing a fish. On the contrary, since a barbless hook requires less "hook set" energy to make the hook penetrate the fish's mouth than a barbed one, actual hook up to strike ratio can increase.

Fish hooked deep in the throat are much easier to get a barbless hook out of than a barbed one. Another thing about barbless hooks is you don't have to grip the fish so tight to get them out. The more stress a fish is subjected to the less its' chance for survival after release.

Don't look for the conventional barbed hooks to disappear from your favorite tackle shops shelves, but more and more anglers are beginning to use barbless hooks. Young fishermen often have two things to overcome when they start fishing-baiting a hook with live bait, and removing a hook. A barbless hook will make the latter task much easier for them.

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## SPORTS

## Grill and Sanders grab big wins at Rattler Weekend

By Mark Chisum

South Alabama Speedway opened the 2007 racing season with the 31st Annual Rattler Weekend this past weekend. The Rattler has seen many exciting races during its history, but none could compare to what was witnessed Sunday afternoon. Birmingham's Augie Grill came across the finish line sideways to take a hard fought victory over Hunter Robbins.

36 Super Late Models were on hand for the annual event with 34 making qualifying runs. Shane Sieg toured the 4/10ths mile newly repaved oval in 15.216 seconds to take the Hammer Race Engines Pole Award. Sieg led the field to the green flag and led the first lap with Josh Hamner taking the lead on lap two. Sieg regained the lead on lap 14, just before the first of 15 cautions flew. Sieg pulled out to a slight advantage over Hamner, Casey Smith, Brian Scott, and Matt Merrill during the early part of the race. The running order remained the same up front early on while position swapping was going on in the middle of the pack.

Smith charged to the front just before a competition yellow on lap 78. Everybody pitted for fresh tires, fuel, and adjustments. When racing resumed, Hamner again took charge. Steven Davis began to show some strength, moving into second on lap 81. Scott moved back into second eight laps later with Jeff Fultz moving past Davis on lap 95. At lap 100, Hamner led Scott, Fultz, Davis, and Turner, Maine's Ben Rowe.

Hamner kept the top spot until lap 182 when Grill took over. Grill moved out to a large lead over Hamner. Sieg moved back to the runner up spot on lap 218. Grill's lead was erased with a lap 220 caution. There was fierce racing up front, but nothing could prepare you for what was about to transpire.

A series of cautions flew in the last ten laps of the 250 lap race as drivers were going all out, trying to take home the Rattler trophy. Robbins had been laying back all race, but used the cautions to improve his track position. On lap 245, Robbins, driving older than his 15 years, shoved his way past Grill to take the lead. Robbins pulled out to a car length lead and appeared headed to the biggest win of his young career.

Grill, however, had one last shot. As the lead pair entered turn three on the final lap, Grill went in hard. He gave Robbins a shot, loosening the youngster up. Coming out of turn four, Grill dove underneath Robbins and pulled ahead as they headed to the checkered flags. Robbins tried to pinch Grill down to slow his momentum and both went into a spin. Grill had position and his Monte Carlo, spun in front of Robbins, crossing the line sideways before crashing into the outside wall. Robbins spun, and hit the water barrels protecting the inside wall.

Grill's car was towed to Victory Lane where he celebrated the win. Scott was third ahead of Hamner and Sieg. In the Pro Late Model Rattler 125, a familiar face wasin Victory Lane. Ronnie Sanders has won several races over the past few years at South Alabama. Saturday night he

held off the advances of Corey Ruble and Ryan Paul to take the win. Ruble tried everything he could to get past Sanders, using all of the race track, plus some of the grassy apron in the turns. Paul, making his first Late Model start, made a late race charge and almost stole the show. Ruble had to turn part of his attention to Paul, and Sanders was able to hold off his charges. The three brought the large crowd to its feet as they crossed the line nose to tail.

Josh Adkins led all 30 laps to take the win. Bubba Gale came from the back of the field, moving into second by lap six. However, by that time, Adkins enjoyed a large lead. That lead was wiped out with a lap 22 caution. When the green flew, Adkins pulled away to take the win. Gale followed with Okie Mason third, Brian Huff fourth, and Jeff Wainwright fifth.

Jody Henderson took the win in the Super Stock Feature. Will Mack chased Henderson, but could get no closer than two car lengths. In the Modified Feature, Billy Melvin took the lead from Ricky Brooks on lap 30 and went on to win. Kevin Peat moved into second on lap 35 but was no match for Melvin. Rege Hellett was third with Lance Blacker fourth, and Jason Windham fifth.

Teddy Sasser took the lead on lap 25 to take the Vintage win. Sasser led the first lap but Steve Stewart fought his way to the front to lead the next two laps. Stewart and Sasser got together on lap four, sending both to the rear of the field. Kip Whitehead too over the point and led until the caution came out on lap 18. Whitehead was in a tight battle with Darrell Rudd when the caution flew. When Rudd got off the gas, Rudd got into him, sending Whitehead into the backstretch wall. Rudd led until Sasser took over on lap 25. Matt Culbertson pressured Sasser the rest of the way, but Sasser held on for the win.

Sam Smith took another Street Stock Rattler win. Jeff Rudd took the early lead and appeared to have a car to win. Billy Ammons caught Rudd and tried to steal the lead on lap 27. Ammons got under Rudd going into turn one. As they exited turn two, there was contact, sending Rudd around. Both were sent to the rear, giving the lead to Smith. Once out front, Smith pulled away from Kyle Sims and went on to win.

Charles Gardner ran away with the Roadrunner Feature. Gardner took the lead from John Singletary on lap four and cruised home. Tony Tidwell and LaDunn Stokes had a tight battle for seconds with Tidwell coming out on top.

Joseph Chandler led flag to flag to take the Coyote win. Max Nelson chased Chandler all race but settled for second. New Yorker Shane Riffel won the CupLite Feature. George Skora was able to keep Riffel close, but was never able to mount a serious challenge for the lead.

In the Mini Sportsman Feature, Cameron Henderson took advantage of Jeremy Peacock's misfortunes to take the win. Peacock took the lead from the start and pulled away from the field. However, Peacock began experiencing mechanical problems late in the race. Henderson ran Peacock down and took the lead coming out of turn two on the final lap. Peacock was able to hold on to second.

Log on to www.southalabiaspeedway.com for upcoming events at the Kinston oval.

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## High School \*\*\* Baseball \*\*\* Softball \*\*\* DIAMOND DUST

## \*\*\* BASEBALL \*\*\*

## Kinston Bulldogs rip Poplar Springs 12-2

The Kinston Bulldogs took charge early last Monday afternoon and rolled to a big 12-2 win over Poplar Springs. Charlie Hercus was the winning pitcher and finished the game with 5 strikeouts, while at the plate the Bulldogs were led by Erick Odom with 3 hits, Aaron Jacobs and Nick Weeks with 2 hits, apiece, and Matt Whigham with a home-run.

## New Brockton JV sweep past Arton

The New Brockton JV made it look easy last week with a 13-0, 12-2 double-header sweep over Arton. Trey Knight struck out 9 batters in getting the win in the opener, while in the nightcap Matt Halstead knocked in 3 runs.

## \*\*\* SOFTBALL \*\*\*

## Kinston Lady Bulldogs edge Providence 2-1

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs needed nine innings last Monday afternoon to edge past Providence Christian 2-1. Kallegh Sanders was the winning pitcher and recorded 10 strikeouts, while at the plate the Lady Bulldogs were led by Katie Motler and Amanda Crohn with 2 hits, apiece, and Erin Shaw, Sarah Mock and Kallegh Sanders with 1 hit, each.

## Zion Chapel splits with Arton Lady 'Cats

The Zion Chapel Lady Rebels split a double-header Friday afternoon against Arton as they won the opener 9-8 and dropped the nightcap 21-1. In the opener, Heather Hines struck out 7 batters to get the win on the pitching rubber, while at the plate Jennifer Taylor banged out 2 hits. In the nightcap, Arton was in complete command and was led by Ciara Baker with a grand-slam homer-run and Lexi Phillips with 4 rbi's.

## Funds needed for football lockers at Elba High

The Elba Tigers are in need of new lockers for the varsity football locker room, and all Elba Tiger fans are encouraged to make a cash donation to help the team reach its goal.

"We are in desperate need of new football lockers," stated Elba's Coach Scott Rials. "Our current lockers are metal and in really bad condition. We are looking to build wooden lockers with flip up seats. These lockers will cost \$100 each to build, and we are asking former players, students, parents, grandparents, boosters, and anyone else that is interested to help us."

In return for the donation of \$100, a locker will have the name of the person making the donation. If the person was a former player it will also have his/her jersey number, or their graduation year if they are an Elba High grad. One may also furnish a locker in memory of someone.

Donations may be mailed to: Elba High School Locker Fund, 371 Tiger Drive, Elba, Alabama 36323.

Support Elba Tiger athletics with your donations and membership in the Athletic Club

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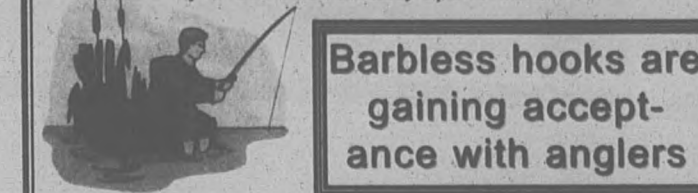
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Fax: (334) 347-5862  
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RYAN MARLER & BO WIGGINS teamed up with Ryan's Dad Charlie Marler on the opening day of the Alabama Youth Turkey Hunt and bagged this 21 pound Tom. The gobbler was sporting 1 3/8 inch spurs and a 10 3/4 inch beard.

## Let's Go... Outdoors with Ben

by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist



My grandmother loved to eat fish. It didn't matter particularly what species it was or how it was cooked. She preferred fried, but baked or broiled fish was at the top of preferred meat list, too.

The one thing that infuriated my grandmother was to watch someone catch a large bass and throw it back. "That idiot just threw back enough meat to feed a family for supper," she would say. Grandmother would not be the darling of the catch and release fishermen of today.

With fishing pressure at an all time high on our waters, catch and release fishing insures there is enough action for all of us on the water. Keeping enough fish for a fish fry, especially crappie and blue gill, is still accepted and practiced by many of us.

Fishermen who have released a bass hooked deep in the gullet know that a lot of twisting and pulling on the hook with needle nose pliers does nothing for the fishes chance of surviving. This is where barbless hooks come in.

Research over the last few years indicates that it is better to remove a hook rather than cut the line and leave the hook in a fish's mouth. Hooks do not dissolve as fast as was once thought, and can stay in the fish's mouth for several months. A fish hooked deep has a better chance of surviving if the hook is left in place. But don't try to cut the line right at the hook. Leave about a foot of line on the hook so enough force will be exerted on the hook to keep the hook shank from turning up and preventing the fish from swallowing.

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Fish hooked deep in the throat are much easier to get a barbless hook out of than a barbed one. Another thing about barbless hooks is you don't have to grip the fish so tight to get them out. The more stress a fish is subjected to the less its' chance for survival after release.

Don't look for the conventional barbed hooks to disappear from your favorite tackle shops shelves, but more and more anglers are beginning to use barbless hooks. Young fishermen often have two things to overcome when they start fishing-baiting a hook with live bait, and removing a hook. A barbless hook will make the latter task much easier for them.

## Wanted - Manager for Coffee County Fishing Lake

Duties include permit sales, grounds maintenance, and management of lake. Manager must live at the lake in State-provided housing. Investment required. Application and information are available from: Alabama Division of Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries, 64 N. Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36130, or call (334) 242-3471.

PLEASE REPLY BY MARCH 14, 2007

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THURSDAY, MARCH 22  
\* Baseball \*  
Ariton at Elba (DH) 4:00  
\* Softball \*  
Elba at Wicksburg (JV-V) 4:30  
Pleasant Home at Kinston (JV-V) 4:00  
New Brockton at Zion Chapel (V-JV) 4:00

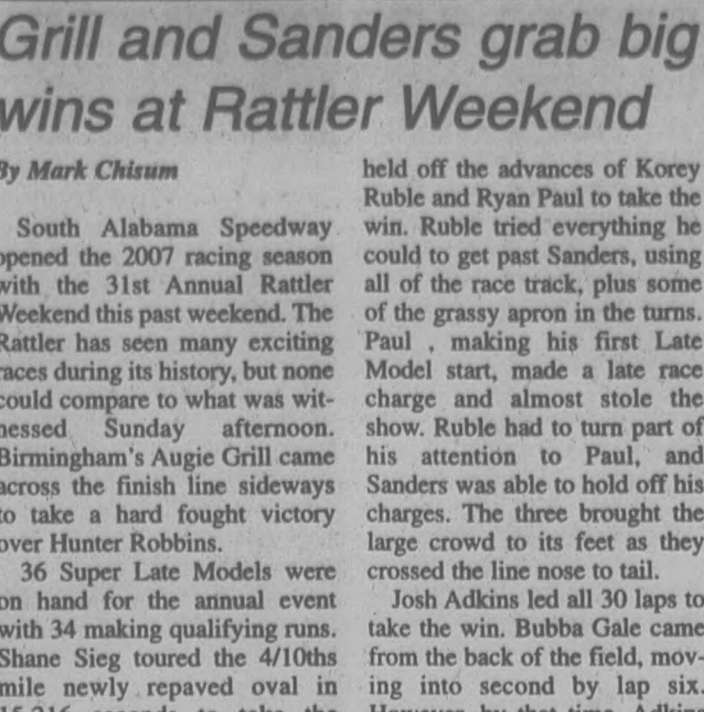
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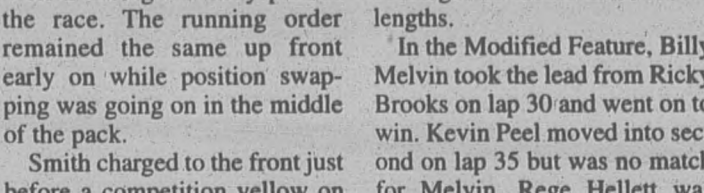
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RYAN MARLER & BO WIGGINS teamed up with Ryan's Dad Charlie Marler on the opening day of the Alabama Youth Turkey Hunt and bagged this 21 pound Tom. The gobbler was sporting 1 3/8 inch spurs and a 10 3/4 inch beard.

## Let's Go... Outdoors with Ben

by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist



My grandmother loved to eat fish. It didn't matter particularly what species it was or how it was cooked. She preferred fried, but baked or broiled fish was at the top of preferred meat list, too.

The one thing that infuriated my grandmother was to watch someone catch a large bass and throw it back. "That idiot just threw back enough meat to feed a family for supper," she would say. Grandmother would not be the darling of the catch and release fishermen of today.

With fishing pressure at an all time high on our waters, catch and release fishing insures there is enough action for all of us on the water. Keeping enough fish for a fish fry, especially crappie and blue gill, is still accepted and practiced by many of us.

Fishermen who have released a bass hooked deep in the gullet know that a lot of twisting and pulling on the hook with needle nose pliers does nothing for the fishes chance of surviving. This is where barbless hooks come in.

Research over the last few years indicates that it is better to remove a hook rather than cut the line and leave the hook in a fish's mouth. Hooks do not dissolve as fast as was once thought, and can stay in the fish's mouth for several months. A fish hooked deep has a better chance of surviving if the hook is left in place. But don't try to cut the line right at the hook. Leave about a foot of line on the hook so enough force will be exerted on the hook to keep the hook shank from turning up and preventing the fish from swallowing.

On two different occasions I have been invited to a friends farm pond to check on how well the fish were growing. One trip was for bass and the other was for channel cat. On both occasions we snapped the barbs off before fishing. I do not believe using barbless hooks resulted in either of us losing a fish. On the contrary, since a barbless hook requires less "hook set" energy to make the hook penetrate the fish's mouth than a barbed one, actual hook up to strike ratio can increase.

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**BIG - YARD - SALE- SAT.** MARCH 17th 7:00 AM UNTIL 12:00. Hwy. 84 (Shiloh Comm.) (Old Store between Elba & New Brockton). Lots of Nice Baby & Children's Clothes. Baby Items, Misc. Furniture, Lots of Miscellaneous Items, T.V., Etc. Etc. Priced To Sell!! 3-15-11p

**YARD SALE-Selling House!** Everything a Family Doesn't Want Must Go. March 17, 2007; 8:00 a.m. UNTIL. AL Hwy. 134 Near Ino Baptist Church, Turn on Coffee County Rd. 450 to Residence 1159. 3-15-11c

### SERVICES/NOTICES

**ALEX'S BARBER & STYLE-OLD** Fashion Haircuts to Layered Styles. Walk-ins Welcome. 220 West Davis, Elba. Call 333-3526. 3-15-11c

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**BAKERS TREE SERVICE AND STUMP REMOVAL** - 23 years of Experience. FREE ESTIMATES. Call 897-2271 after 6:00 p.m. 10-29-4fc

**HAVE YOU been in an automobile accident?** Wanted-Current information on your auto accident. Call toll free 1-866-684-1449. (R)

**GET MARRIED** in the mountains at Montrose Wedding Chapel—simple, affordable, elegant. Couples, family & friends' receptions, honeymoon cottages, complete package, photos. 1-256-634-4181. Fax: 1-256-634-4060. www.menoneweddingchapel.com. Email: linda@menoneweddingchapel.com.

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**FOR SALE: 3BR/2BTH** 1700+ Sq. Ft. Home, CHA, Fenced Backyard, Located in Samson. \$80,000, 898-9639. 3-1-14tp

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**WATERFRONT** 116' elegant 5,000 sq. ft. 5 bedroom, 4 bath brick home. Media room, formal areas. 1 acre. Porches. Fireplace. Debbie Mathis Realty 1-256-574-2525.

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### DRIVERS TRAINEEES

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### DRIVER TRAINEEES NEEDED NOW!

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### ACREAGE FOR SALE

Paved Road & Water. Call 897-2360. 1-25-11c

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**2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH** - \$325.00 per month. Call 897-3021. 3-15-12c

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**OPEN HOUSE MARCH 17-18 - 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM.** FOR SALE BY OWNER - GANTT LAKE HOME. Water front - 29388 Valley of Shiloh Rd., Gantt, AL - 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. 1500 sq. ft. with 24'x24' carport and fenced yard. 100'x175' slightly elevated lot (concrete seawall. Has never flooded. 2.5 slip, boat house, includes: ski/accessories storage room, elec. boat hoist and oversize deck. Call: 251-564-4515 cell, 251-575-3284 days (ask for Jodie) or 575-9284 nights. 3-15-11c

### AMERICAN TOWER MANAGEMENT INC.

07-02-09-0-000-008-000 SEC-09 TWSHP-6N RGE-21E A LOT IN THE SE 1/4 OF SW 1/4 SEC 09 AS COM AT A PT WHERE THE E R/W LINE OF HWY 25 INTER THE S LINE OF SD SEC. TH NW 68'S TO POB. TH CONTG NLY 40' HWY 25' 260' TH ELY 420' AL SW 260' TH WLY 370' TO POB CONT 2.3 ACS Taxes \$492.81 Fees \$40.92 Total \$533.73

### ANDERSON JOY EVELYN

07-06-23-0-000-007-004 SEC-23 TWSHP-6N RGE-21E A LOT IN THE SE 1/4 OF SW 1/4 SEC 23 AS COM AT A PT WHERE THE E R/W LINE OF HWY 25 INTER THE S LINE OF SD SEC. TH NW 68'S TO POB. TH CONTG NLY 40' HWY 25' 260' TH ELY 420' AL SW 260' TH WLY 370' TO POB CONT 2.3 ACS Taxes \$492.81 Fees \$40.92 Total \$533.73

### BISHOP LESLEY SUE

13-05-16-0-000-004-000 SEC-16 TWSHP-4N RGE-19E A LOT IN SW 1/4 OF NW 1/4 SEC 16 AS FOLLOWS BEG AT SE COR OF SD 1/4 TH W 449' TH N 110' TH E 449' TH S 110' TO POB Taxes \$213.36 Fees \$25.74 Total \$239.10

### BROWN TOM MACK

06-02-03-0-000-006-001 SEC-03 TWSHP-6N RGE-20E A LOT IN THE SE 1/4 OF SW 1/4 SEC 03 AS FOLLOWS BEG AT SE COR OF SD 1/4 TH W 449' TH N 110' TH E 449' TH S 110' TO POB Taxes \$213.36 Fees \$25.74 Total \$239.10

### BROWN TOM MACK JR

06-02-03-0-000-006-001 SEC-03 TWSHP-6N RGE-20E A LOT IN THE SE 1/4 OF SW 1/4 SEC 03 AS FOLLOWS BEG AT SE COR OF SD 1/4 TH W 449' TH N 110' TH E 449' TH S 110' TO POB Taxes \$213.36 Fees \$25.74 Total \$239.10

### CAMPBELL GABRIEL R & WYNDIA

11-05-21-0-000-016-000 SEC-21 TWSHP-6N RGE-20E A LOT IN THE SE 1/4 OF SW 1/4 SEC 21 AS FOLLOWS BEG AT SE COR OF SD 1/4 TH W 449' TH N 110' TH E 449' TH S 110' TO POB Taxes \$213.36 Fees \$25.74 Total \$239.10

### CARMICHAEL ODELL

11-03-05-3-001-013-000 SEC-05 TWSHP-6N RGE-20E A LOT IN THE SE 1/4 OF SW 1/4 SEC 05 AS FOLLOWS BEG AT SE COR OF SD 1/4 TH W 449' TH N 110' TH E 449' TH S 110' TO POB Taxes \$213.36 Fees \$25.74 Total \$239.10

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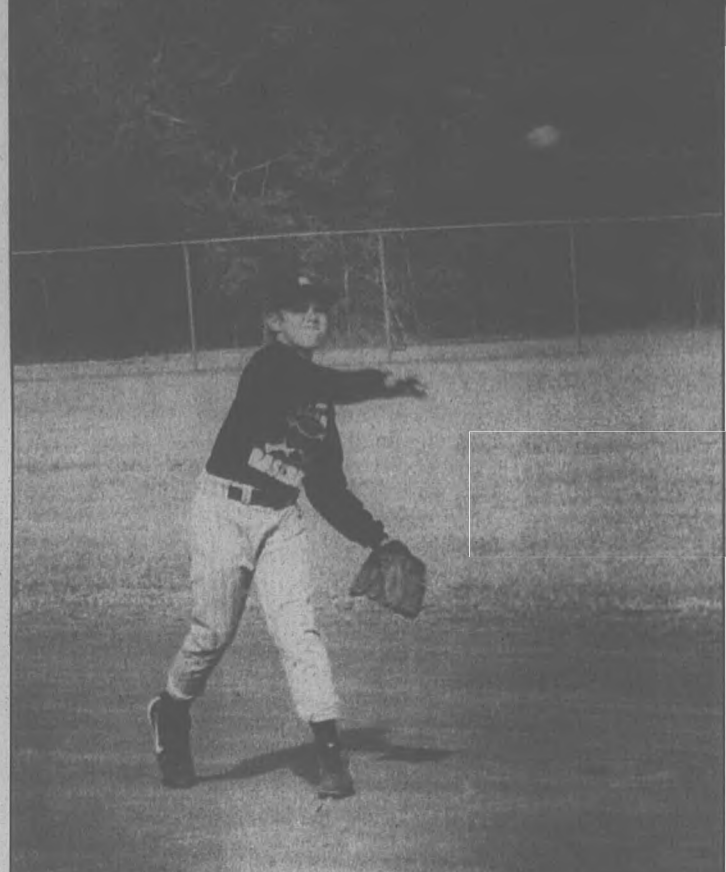
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# COMMUNITY NEWS



**THE PEOPLES BANK OF COFFEE COUNTY**, in promotion of the Builders Club Account, hosted a baseball clinic Saturday, March 10, at Legion Field in Elba for boys ages 8-14. Several local youngsters took part in this free event. The coaching staff for the clinic included members of the Troy University Baseball Team. The clinic allowed the Troy baseball players to pass along valuable techniques of the game as they helped the youngsters improve on and better understand the basic fundamentals of play.



## IRS urges people to check before filing

Nearly 137,000 taxpayers in Alabama miss out on phone tax refund

The Internal Revenue Service today urged taxpayers to check to see if they qualify for the telephone excise tax refund after more than 10 million early filers nationwide — 136,562 in Alabama — did not request the one-time refund.

In the first release of this year's weekly filing season statistics, about 30 percent of all taxpayers did not request the telephone tax refund.

Many Alabama taxpayers are overlooking this special refund," said IRS spokesman Dan Boone. "We want to encourage the remaining 1.5 million Alabamians who haven't filed not to miss out on the chance at some extra dollars."

The government stopped collecting the long-distance excise tax last August after several federal court decisions held that the tax does not apply to long-distance service as it is billed today. Federal officials also authorized a one-time refund of the federal excise tax collected on service billed during the previous 41 months, stretching from the beginning of March 2003 to the end of July 2006. The tax continues to apply to local-only phone service.

To make the refund easier to figure, the government established a standard refund amount, based on personal exemptions, ranging from \$30 to \$60. If taxpayers have phone bills and other records, they can request the actual amount of excise tax paid. Though using

the standard amount is optional, it is easy to figure and approximate the eligible amount for most individual taxpayers. Taxpayers only have to fill out one line on their return, and they don't need to present proof to the IRS.

Out of the tax returns filed through Feb. 16, more than 10 million taxpayers did not request the telephone tax refund. And nearly half of those returns — more than 4.8 million — were completed by a tax preparer.

In other statistics released today, early filings show e-file returns are up nearly 3 percent and e-filed returns prepared on home computers up 7 percent compared to last year. Through Feb. 16, the average refund is \$2,733, nearly \$100 more than last year.

For people requesting the telephone tax refund, it's \$30 to \$60 — or even more — onto a refund. The IRS wants to make it as easy as possible for anyone who paid the tax to get this special refund. If you paid the tax and haven't filed yet, here are some tips to help you figure the refund correctly and get it quickly:

- File electronically. Electronic-filing software flags often overlooked tax breaks and helps you figure them accurately and report them properly. If you use a professional tax preparer, ask that person to e-file your return.

- E-file for free. If your income is \$52,000 or less, use

## On-Farm Energy Conservation Awareness workshop set for March 30 in New Brockton

In order to increase awareness among farmers on ways to conserve energy on the farm, there will be an On-Farm Energy Conservation Awareness Workshop in the Community Room of the Coffee County Office Complex in New Brockton on Friday, March 30. The workshop is free to the public and is scheduled to begin at 9:00 am and will conclude before noon.

The workshop is sponsored by the Wiregrass R&D Council, the Alabama Mountains, Rivers and Valleys R&D Council, Inc. and the Energy, Weatherization and Technology Division of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs. For additional information contact the Wiregrass R&D Office at 334-774-2334.

The **Free File** link on IRS.gov to connect to a private-sector company offering free e-file services.

- Choose direct deposit. Whether you file electronically or on paper, you can get your refund at least a week sooner by having it deposited directly into your checking or savings account.

- Consider using the standard-refund amount for the telephone tax refund. Though using the standard amount is optional, it is easy to figure and approximate the eligible amount for most individual taxpayers. You only have to fill out one line on your return, and you don't need to present proof to the IRS. The standard amount, ranging from \$30 to \$60, is based on the number of exemptions you can claim on your return.

- If you paid more than the standard amount, you may figure your refund using the actual amount of tax shown on your phone bills and other records. Base your refund request on the three-percent federal tax paid, not the total phone bill. Do not count tax paid on local-only service. You must have the phone bills or other records adequate to support the amount you are requesting. These documents should not be sent along with the refund request but should be retained in case the IRS questions the amount requested.

- Do not file duplicate requests. If you file a regular income-tax return, do not file Form 1040EZ-T. Designed exclusively for requesting the telephone-tax refund, this simple form is for people who don't need to file a regular income-tax return. If you want to take advantage of the earned income tax credit for low and moderate income workers, the child tax credit or other tax breaks, file a regular return and include your telephone-tax refund request on that return.

- Stay away from tax preparers who falsely claim that many, if not most, phone customers can get hundreds of dollars or more back under this program.

- Use the Telephone Excise Tax Refund section on the front page of IRS.gov. Here, you can download forms, find answers to frequently-asked questions and link to participating Free File partners.



THE ELBA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION sponsored the first annual "Sock Hop" event Saturday evening, Feb. 17, at the recreation center. Several adults and youngsters took part in this event and came ready to dance the night away in their 60s wear. The next event being planned by the department, along with several area merchants, is a Family Easter Festival. It will be held Saturday, March 31, at the Rec. Center. Everyone is invited to attend.

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The family of the late Alzie Lee Hudson recently donated the quilt shown above to be raffled. The quilt was one of the last completed by Mrs. Hudson. The fund raising raffle generated \$770, and all proceeds were given by Mrs. Hudson's family to the Hudson Cemetery Fund to aid in the upkeep of the local cemetery. Several family members gathered Thursday evening, March 1, for the raffle drawing, including (from left): Kacy Hussey, Raegan Bragg, Kerry Hussey, Carolyn Hudson, Glenda Sanders, Teresa Hussey, Donna Bragg and Nellie Holcomb. The lucky winner of the quilt was Miriam McKnight (shown in the photo inset).

## Southeastern Community Band preparing for concert to be held March 26th in Elba

The Southeastern Community Band, under the direction of Dr. John M. Long, will play a concert Monday, March 26, in Elba at the high school auditorium beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The Community Band has 54 members who have played in military bands, college bands or are currently high school or junior high school directors in their area. Many are professional people including university faculty members, retired military personnel, businessmen, medical doctors, radio talk hosts and other experienced musicians who play for the joy of playing.

The program will include Sousa marches, Broadway show tunes, traditional band classics and soloists. One of the classical selections to be included is "Carriccio Espagnol" by Rimsky-Korsakov, a beautiful selection taken from the orchestra.



Ray Smith

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## Something Better

by Linda M. Hodge

### Chapter Six

It had been a restless night for Kyle. He kept thinking about the conversation he and Sidney had the previous evening. She helped him see things differently, and for the first time in a long time, Kyle thought he might be able to really talk to his brother.

"Don't you ever rest?" Kyle posed the question to Kevin after he found him in the barn working on a tractor. "The sun's barely up and you're already cracking the whip."

"That's life on the farm, little brother. No rest for the weary. I've gotta get this tractor going and to the field."

"Tell me what to do, and I'll help."

Kyle continued to think about what Sidney had said. After he told her about leaving, she asked him why he began distancing himself from his brother and his family. She knew they couldn't have been among those chastising Kyle for deciding to leave, and she was right.

The constant push for him to grow up and do what was expected of him drove Kyle absolutely crazy. He didn't understand why it would make that big a difference. Sure, he was supposed to join Kevin at work, but Kevin was handling things just fine without him.

Kyle had planned to discuss his options with Kevin prior to making a final decision, but he let his Uncle Sam keep him from it. A few days before Kyle left Cedar Oaks, Sam decided to talk some sense into Kyle. It resulted in an ugly shouting match that sent Kyle running. He never said a word to Kevin about it. He just left.

By the time Kyle calmed down, he already had been gone six months. He wanted to tell Kevin about the argument with Sam, but he also didn't want to make a bad situation worse. He had too much pride to admit he had made a hasty decision based solely on anger.

More and more time passed and Kyle decided he had waited too long to admit any of this to his brother. He became ashamed of his behavior. He especially was embarrassed that he had shucked his responsibility in the manner he did. He owed Kevin more than that. Kyle decided his actions were more like a child than a man, and deep down he was afraid his brother was disappointed in him.

In a way, Kevin added to Kyle's anxiety through his own actions. He never said a word to his little brother about leaving. Kyle often wondered if Sam had ever said anything to Kevin, but he was too afraid to ask. Instead of talking, each decided the best solution was to move on

and make the best of the situation at hand. Kyle found a new life for himself in the city, and he assumed Kevin was enjoying being the sole operator of the farm and store.

In talking with Sidney, however, Kyle began to look at the situation in a different manner.

"Tell me big brother. When's the last time you spent some quality time alone with your wife?" Kyle asked as he and Kevin continued to work on the tractor.

"What?"

"When's the last time you took a break from work and took your wife out?"

"I don't know. It's been a while. Things are really busy around here."

"C'mon. It can't be that busy."

"It's busier than you think. I've got a lot of responsibility resting on my shoulders here, little brother."

"No thanks to me, either. Huh?"

"That's not what I mean. There's just a lot that goes in to keeping everything running around here."

The responsibility Kevin was speaking of was always intended to be shared between two people, more particularly between Kevin and Kyle. In the five years that Kyle had been gone, Kevin never hired anyone to help him manage the farm and store. Kyle assumed it was because Kevin wanted to do it alone. After all, he had looked forward to running the family business since he was a little boy.

Kyle now was realizing some things about his brother that he had been unable to see before his talk with Sidney. She helped him see beyond his own selfishness.

Kevin had never filled Kyle's position within the business because he did not want to replace his little brother. It was Kyle's place, and Kevin wanted it to be there for him if he ever decided to return to Cedar Oaks. Therefore, he made a decision to do whatever necessary and make no changes in regards to the management of the farm and store.

"You work way too hard," Kyle continued prodding his brother.

"Just part of the job."

"Maybe so, but I think you need a break. Better yet. You deserve a break. And, what better time to take advantage of your brother than now?"

### Next Week: Chapter Seven

Feelings Grow Strong

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THE ELBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE held a "Business After Hours" event Thursday, March 8, for chamber members. The event, held at the chamber office, was sponsored by The Peoples Bank of Coffee County. Those attending were treated to refreshments as they discussed happening in and around Elba. During the event, Laurie Chapman offered a presentation regarding the city's website. She described various benefits of the website ([www.elbaalabama.net](http://www.elbaalabama.net)).

## CITY

(Continued from Page One)

department is up some as is the police department. Grimes expects the police expense to get back in line in the next few months. The sanitation department and the recreation departments are under budget for the year.

Police chief Freddy Hanchey reported his department is short four officers, forcing the department to go to 12 hour shifts to ensure the community is properly patrolled.

City Clerk Wayne Granham reported that the Clements

Furniture building tear down would begin this week. He had talked with the firm contracted to do the work and they assured him they were ready to start.

He said the Beaver Dam Creek bed project is being completed this week.

A request for a liquor license that came before the council at the last meeting is being revised and will be presented to the state and city in the near future.

Grace Daniels addressed the City Council, expressing concern over the recent increase in

utility rates. She said she was concerned for those on limited incomes with no way to get an increase. She added that these people have to choose between electric bills and medicine for their children. "When they pay the light bill, something else goes lacking", she added.

She was told that the Water and Electric board is the correct place to voice those concerns, but Mayor Grimes suggested she bring in some of the actual bills and he would see if there appeared to be a problem that could be solved at city hall.



Miss Elba Christina Bryant and Junior Miss Elba Cortlin Lee also attended the "Business After Hours" event. The young ladies often are found at community events greeting guests.

Left: Kaye Whitworth, executive director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce, receives help from Future Little Miss Elba Makayla Polk in drawing for a door prize at the "Business After Hours" event. Also assisting Whitworth with the drawing was Little Miss Elba Kayla Seay. Below: Business owners and chamber members Kenneth Calhoun and Beth Henderson discuss local issues during the "Business After Hours" event held last Thursday evening at the Elba Chamber of Commerce office. Several business owners and employees attended this event designed to offer fellowship and information to chamber members.

## CCC

(Continued from Page One)

County EMA director John Tallas asked commissioners again during Monday's meeting to act on approving the continuity of operations proposals he previously presented. He said the recent disaster in Enterprise helped prove a need for this.

In response, Commissioner Tom Grimsley said he would like for the chairman (Jim Thompson) to meet with Tallas to come up with an alternate meeting site (maybe two) for the commission. He recommended this be brought to the commission for approval at the next meeting.

Commissioner Robert Stephens said the clock in the tower of the county courthouse in Elba has been in need of repairs for quite some time. He said a company capable of making the necessary repairs has been located and can complete all repairs to the clock for \$1,135.

Stephens made a motion with a second from Commissioner Bernest Brooks that the county pay this amount to get the clock back in good working condition. Commissioners approved this motion by an unanimous vote.

Commissioner Linda Westbrook reported that the Zion Chapel Senior Citizen Center building should be completed this week. She said she is very excited to see this project complete.

In other business, commissioners:

## TOWN

(Continued from Page One)

Mayor Cole had a bit of bad news to report regarding the work on Tyler Street. He said the rain on Thursday, March 1, washed everything out at the repair site. He said it move the pipes, and it will require a crane to move them back into place.

Mayor Cole said this definitely was a set back for this project which had really been progressing as of late. He said it is probably going to be a month before the project is back to where it was when the storms came through on March 1st.

During the February council meeting, a concerned resident, Michael Jenkins, addressed council members regarding the condition of Medley Road.

Mayor Cole said the road has been a problem for years. He said there is no right-of-way on that road.

Cole said a letter has been written to the county and county engineer asking them to grate and gravel Medley Road for the town. He also said a letter has been written to the town's attorney asking his opinion on getting the right-of-ways for the road.

The mayor said the consensus seems to be that the only way to fix the road is to widen it.

After a brief discussion, council members asked town clerk Annette Williams to send a letter to all residents on Medley Road asking them to attend the April council meeting to express their

\* Approved the high bid for timber cutting at the landfill. The bid came from Timberland Harvesters of Eufaula, Ala. at \$3.25 per ton.

\* Approved the low bid to reroof the farm center building. This bid came from ESMAAC of Enterprise at \$62,195 (total bid). All commissioners except Commissioner Doug Dalrymple voted in favor of awarding the bid. Dalrymple wanted to table the bid to allow commissioners to look at exactly what they are doing and when it will be done.

\* Approved a motion made by Commissioner Westbrook to reappoint Jeff Kelley and Bruce Donaldson to the Coffee County Building Authority.

\* Approved a motion made by Commissioner Grimsley to appoint Lofin Martin back to the Coffee County Water Authority.

\* Approved a motion made by Commissioner Brooks to appoint Lenwood Herron to the Coffee County Building Authority.

\* Approved a motion made by Commissioner Chairman Jim Thompson to appoint R.P. Flowers and David Bandstra to the Coffee County Emergency Communications Board. Each appointment was for a four-year term beginning July '06.

The next meeting of the Coffee County Commission will be Monday, March 26, at 9 a.m. in the community room of the county complex in New Brockton.

concerns for the road.

Council members also took time during the meeting to praise town employees and emergency personnel for the help they provided the City of Enterprise following the devastating tornadoes that struck the city Thursday, March 1.

"I want to commend all departments for helping out in Enterprise," Cole said. "I got some favorable comments today on how professional the people from New Brockton were in helping Enterprise."

The mayor said he can not say enough to thank the people of the departments for what they did to help.

Council member White echoed the mayor's remarks indicating he was proud of the departments.

"We don't have a lot of equipment and manpower, but we gave what we had," White said. Council member Richard Driskell also asked that everyone pray for the parents that lost children during the tornado.

"I'm very proud that we did show that we cared and helped our neighbors," council member Johnnie Herron added.

Mayor Cole said the town offices scheduled to move to the old Armory building will begin to move shortly. He said the town will keep the public informed on this move and when it is operational.

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INSIDE

Lady Tiger JV team wins Luverne tourney

# The Elba Clipper

Volume 110, Number 41

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 22, 2007

1 Section, 16 Pages

## Elba BOE holds routine meeting

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba School Board met Tuesday, March 13, and business was routine.

This month there were no visitors except the press. Local citizens were not there to express concerns or defend administration actions as they did a month ago.

The board gave approval to a new list of state adopted text

### Resolution still being sought in Dorsey Trailers bankruptcy case

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The bankrupt case of Dorsey Trailers continues to work back and forth in the federal bankruptcy court system. The expected settlement of several weeks ago did not come to a positive end, but efforts continue daily.

Last week Attorney Terry Butts, who represents the prospective buyer, Pitts Enterprises, said there had been an informal session with Bankruptcy Court Judge Sawyer in Montgomery last Tuesday morning. He added that following that meeting, attorneys involved from all interested parties are rewriting the paperwork in hopes of satisfying several technical and other concerns expressed by the judge.

Butts said he, his client and the other attorneys involved with the case are optimistic of the extra efforts resulting in a positive ending to the case and that Pitts will be building trailers in Elba before year end. He added that while the legalities and extensive paperwork will

take time, he hopes to have the matter back before the bankruptcy court in about 90 days.

Pitts Enterprises is an experienced and respected trailer manufacturing company located in Pittsboro, Alabama and expects to build some of the company's existing lines at the Elba plant as well as build trailers bearing the Dorsey Trailer name.

Elba Mayor James Grimes and other community leaders have met with second generation trailer manufacturer Jeff Pitts and came away feeling that the firm and management team will be good for the long range economy of the Elba community.

major subjects to be reviewed with parents during these annual meetings, which are held during the first month of the school year.

The policy also list various opportunities for parents to be involved with their children's activities throughout the school year. Open and timely communications is promised to all parents through weekly student folders, student planners, personal contacts, news stories in The Elba Clipper, flyers, school handbooks and progress reports.

Announcements to board members included a report that the recent school bus inspection resulted in a score of 92%. The system was penalized for a non-working windshield wiper on an older bus which had been sidelined and was not in use, but still on the bus lot.

School safety issues have been reviewed following the Enterprise tornado and found to be adequate. All staff members have been refreshed on the proper actions to take during emergencies.

Superintendent Danny Weeks updated board members on leg-

Please See BOE, Page 16



**COFFEE COUNTY INMATE'S ESCAPE SHORT-LIVED...**Coffee County Jail inmate Phillip Musgrove visited the county courthouse in Elba Thursday morning, March 15, for a court appointment. Musgrove was guided by a corrections officer as he slowly made his way on crutches. During his court appearance, Musgrove received a revocation of probation and according to authorities was looking at serving 12 years in a state prison. At approximately 10:15 a.m., after exiting the courthouse, Musgrove escaped custody of the corrections officer as he suddenly threw down his crutches, kicked off his flip-flop shoes and fled. Coffee County Jail Administrator Richard Moss said Musgrove eluded officers for approximately 22 minutes as he was recaptured at 10:37 a.m. following a tip from a local citizen. Musgrove was found hiding under a vacant house on Simmons Street in Elba. Prior to Thursday's escape, Musgrove was being held at the Coffee County Jail awaiting trial on a charge of robbery first degree and resisting arrest. Moss said Musgrove now will also be charged with escape first degree. The escape charge could result in an additional 15-99 years or life in prison and a fine up to \$30,000. Sheriff Dave Sutton extended his thanks to the Elba Police Department and the Alabama State Troopers for their assistance in the recapture of Musgrove. Above, Musgrove's crutches and shoes lie on the pavement exactly where he left them when he escaped last Thursday morning in Elba.

## Enterprise students receive lesson in building stronger, safer homes

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Some Enterprise High School students received a lesson last Thursday afternoon, March 15, that will help them better prepare for the possibility of future fury from Mother Nature.

Representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) brought a Disaster Avoidance With Good Home Attenuation Unionization System (DAWG HAUS) for demonstration to students. The purpose of the

demonstration was to prepare chosen students to build a safer, stronger house.

Lonnie Ryder, a FEMA representative, said today's ordinary house built to code will not withstand strong winds such as those experienced in Enterprise Thursday, March 1, when a tornado devastated the area, destroying homes and Enterprise High School. He said the DAWG HAUS is a rein-

Please See SAFER, Page 16

## New Brockton Police arrest local man on sexual abuse charges

The New Brockton Police Department arrested a local man Friday, March 16, after a complaint was made and an investigation conducted into the alleged sexual abuse of a minor female victim.

George Edward Holloman, age 55, of 604 South John Street, New Brockton, was arrested and charged with two counts of sodomy first degree and two counts of sexual abuse of a child less than 12-years-old.

Holloman was arrested by Investigator Heather Koerner of the New Brockton Police Department. Inv. Koerner transported the suspect to the Coffee County Jail where he remains with no bonds having been set.

According to New Brockton Police Chief Dale Grimes, the investigation continues with the assistance from the Alabama Department of Human Resources.

Anyone with any information that might assist in this and possibly other similar allegations in the New Brockton and surrounding area are encouraged to call their local law enforcement agency.

## REMINDER

Coffee County Schools in partnership with the Coffee County Sheriff's Department and Enterprise Police Department will present a drug awareness seminar. Presenters will be Neal Bradley, Darrell Graywood and Kyle Hise. The seminar will be held Thursday, March 22, 6 p.m. at Zion Chapel School. All parents, students and interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

## Family Easter Festival set for Saturday, March 31, in Elba

by Brian Blair, Staff Writer

As each spring approaches, many youngsters look forward to getting their Easter baskets back out and finding the "Golden Egg".

With this thought in mind, the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation along with other area merchants will sponsor the a Family Easter Festival. The festival will be held Saturday, March 31, at the Elba Recreation Department from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

WOOF FM. will broadcast from the department from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m.

"It will be a time when families can have fun together," said Michele Hudson, program coordinator for the Elba Rec. Dept. when asked what a "Family Easter Festival" would involve. "The kids can play games, win prizes, and overall, just have a good time. This is also a way to try to have more community involvement."

Hudson said the games at the festival will be fall festival type games such as go-fish, bingo, bean bag toss and football throw

along with Easter-themed games such as the bunny putt, bunny walk and chick darts.

She said there will be a winner every time at all game booths. There also will be face-painting and a hayride at the festival.

The day's events will continue at Miller Memorial Stadium beginning at 2 p.m. with an Egg Hunt and WKMG broadcasting from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Hudson said the department is planning more community events in the near future such as

a Junior Olympics: basketball and track and field competition.

This event will take place on Saturday, April 14. Also, Hudson said the Pepsi Pitch, Hit and Run baseball game will be held Saturday, May 5.

On behalf of the recreation department, Hudson offered thanks to sponsors who have helped get Family Easter Festival event set up. She also encourages everyone to attend, and she reminds children to not forget their Easter baskets.

## Area Happenings

There will be a "Family Easter Festival" at the Elba Recreation Department from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 31. The festival will feature games, prizes, face painting, and a hayride. The event is sponsored by the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation and other area merchants.

The Elba Recreation Department will also be holding a "Family Easter Festival" at the Elba Recreation Department from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 31. The festival will feature games, prizes, face painting, and a hayride. The event is sponsored by the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation and other area merchants.

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## INSIDE

Chapter Seven of "Something Better" is located on Page 9 of today's edition of The Elba Clipper. There are a total of nine chapters in this serial story.

## Serve! Meet the

Clint Tindol joined the Elba Volunteer Fire Department just over one year ago.

"The firefighter said he joined the department, "to help others around the community."

Tindol has special training as an EMT-B. Away from the department, he works offshore with Global Santa Fe Drilling. He was a substitute mailman in Elba for the past eight years.

When asked what he enjoys most about being a member of the fire department, Tindol said, "the friendship of fellow firefighters and knowing that I have helped others."

Clint's hobbies/interests include hunting, fishing and spending time with family and friends.

He is the son of Tom and Jumell Tindol. Other family members include his sister and brother-in-law, Kim and Josh Manning, and his nephew, Gabe Manning.



Firefighter Clint Tindol